Message Text

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BRASILIA FOR CODEL WOLF

EO 11652: NA TAGS: SNAR, CI SUBJ: VISIT OF CODEL WOLFF, AUGUST 15-17

1. SUMMARY: CONGRESSMEN WOLFF, BURKE, NEAL AND GILMAN RECEIVED NARCOTICS BRIEFING FROM THE EMBASSY NARCOTICS TEAM AND VISITED GOC NARCOTICS CONTROL UNITS. CARABINERO DIRECTOR GENERAL AND JUNTA MEMBER CAESAR MENDOZA VOICED SUPPORT FOR WOLFF'S PROPOSAL FOR A RETIONAL DRUG ENFORCEMENT ORGANIZATION TO COMBAT TRAFFICKING. DURING A PREDEPARTURE PRESS CONFERENCE, CONGRESSMAN WOLFF APPLAUDED THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE GOC DRUG SUPPRESSION PROGRAM, STATED THAT HIS PROPOSAL FOR A REGIONAL ORGANIZATION HAD BEEN WELL-RECEIVED AND EMPHASIZED THE CARTER ADMINISTRATIONS'S PLEDGE TO CONTINUE THE FIGHT AGAINST DRUGS. END SUMMARY

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2. AT NARCOTICS BRIEFING, AUGUST 15, COUNTRY TEAM OFFICERS POINTED OUT DECLINING IMPORTANCE OF CHILE IN COCAINE TRADE AS A RESULT OF STRONG AND EFFECTIVE ENFORCEMENT COMMITTMENT BY THE GOC. OPIUM IS NOT GROWN AND MARIJUANA, WHILE A LOCAL PROBLEM, IS NOT EXPORTED.

3. AT MEETING, AUGUST 16, DIRECTOR GENERAL OF INVESTIGACIONES (CIVILIAN POLICE) GENERAL ERNESTO BAEZA BOASTED THAT NARCOTICS TRAFFICKING IN CHILE HAD ALMOST BEEN ERADICATED, DUE TO LARGE MEASURE TO TOUGH LAW ENFORCEMENT AND THE ELIMINATION OF CORRUPTION IN HIS POLICE FOREC. HE REPEATED THE OFTEN-HEARD ARGUMENT THAT THE ALLENDE GOVERNMENT HAD PERMITTED GREAT QUANTITIES OF DRUGS TO TRANSIT THROUGH THE NORTH OF CHILE EN ROUTE TO THE U.S. AND THAT MUCH OF THE MONEY REAPED HAD GONE INTO FUELING THE MARXIST IDEOLOGY IN CHILE. WITH THE EXPULSION OF 20 KEY FIGURES IN THE DRUG TRADE TO THE U.S. IN LATE 1973, HE SAID, MUCH OF THE NARCOTICS MAFIA HAD BEEN DESTROYED. HE TOLD THE CONGRESSMEN THAT GOC POLICE UNITS CONFISCATE BETWEEN 40 AND 60 KILOS OF COCAINE EACH YEAR. CONGRESSMAN WOLFF LAUDED THE EFFORTS OF THE GOC IN CONTROLLING THE DRUG TRAFFIC AND STATED THAT THE CHALLENGE POSED BY TODAY'S HIGHLY SOPHISTICATED AND MOBILE TRAFFICKERS REQUIRED CONTINUED PRESSURE AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION. HE PROPOSED THAT THE GOC PARTICIPATE IN A REGIONAL ORGANIZATION WHICH COULD ENSURE CONSTANT CONTACT AMONG ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES AND WHICH WOULD GREATLY FACILITATE THE PURSUIT OF DRUG TRAFFICKERS IN BORDER REGIONS. NODDING APPROVAL, BAEZA SAID THAT CHILE HAD ALWAYS ENDORSED INTERNATIONAL POLICE COOPERATION LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TO COMBAT DRUGS.

- 4. DURING HIS CALL ON CARABINERO DIRECTOR GENERAL AND JUNTA MEMBER GENERAL CAESAR MENDOZA AND CARABINERO NARCOTICS OFFICIALS, AUGUST 16, CONGRESSMAN WOLFF AGAIN FLOATED HIS REGIONAL ORGANIZATION PROPOSAL. MENDOZA RESPONDED FAVORABLY AND NOTED THAT PAST INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION HAD BEEN INSTRUMENTAL IN CURTAILING DRUG TRAFFICKING IN CHILE. CARABINERO NARCOTICS CONTROL CHIEF LUIS FONTAINE LATER GAVE A BRIEF RUN-DOWN O FHT CARABINERO ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM.
- 5. CONGRESSMAN WOLFF TOLD PRESS ON AUGUST 17 THAT DRUG ABUSE IN THE U.S. LAST YEAR HAD LED TO THE DEATHS OF 5,000 YOUTHS AND THAT HIS SELECT COMMITTE HAD BEEN ESTABLISHED TO COORDINATE THE WORK OF 7 OTHER SUB-COMMITTEES ON DRUGS AND TO STUDY WAYS TO COMBAT THE PROBLEM. HE SAID THAT, THANKS TO THE EFFORTS OF THE CARABINEROS AND INVESTIGACION ES IN SUPPRESSING DRUG-TRAFFICKING, CHILE IS NO LONGER THE COCAINE CAPITAL AND THAT THE QUANTITY OF THE DRUG ENTERING THE U.S. FROM CHILE

HAS BEEN SIGNIFICANTLY REDUCED. HE AGAIN STRESSED THE NEED FOR A PERMANENT REGIONAL NARCOTICS CONTRO ORGANIZATION, WHICH HE SAID HAD BEEN SUPPORTED BY ALL COUNTRIES HE HAD VISITED.

 $6.\,$ MEMBERS OF CODEL WOLFF ALSO PARTICIPATED IN SOME OF THE ACTIVITIES OF CODEL YATRON (SANTIAGO 6786).

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